

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:514

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2004

DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL ROADS IN GUJARAT

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the roads in rural areas in the country that have been made pucca roads with the help of funds provided by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD);
- (b) the total number of pucca roads to be undertaken by NABARD's funds during the current year;
- (c) the total expenditure to be incurred for this purpose;
- (d) the provisions made in this current Budget for this purpose;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to link unconnected villages in Uttar Pradesh with metalled roads;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the time likely to be taken to fulfil this?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL)

(a) Rural roads is a State subject. As reported by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), funds have been sanctioned under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) to various States for the construction of roads in rural areas in different tranches, as per details at Annexure I. A total of 152483 kms. of roads mainly in rural areas have been made pucca at a cost of Rs.12,367.41 crore. with NABARD assistance.

(b), (c) & (d) RIDF-X is being operationalised during the current year with a corpus of Rs.8000 crore and will be utilised for developmental activities including roads in rural areas. In the current year, a sum of Rs. 336.38 crore has been sanctioned so far to State Governments for development of roads with a length of 3140 kms.

(e), (f) & (g) Since Rural Roads is a State Subject, the policies and programmes are decided by the State Governments. In addition, the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for providing all-weather connectivity to habitations with population above 500, including construction of metalled roads where required. The PMGSY is presently funded from a cess on High Speed Diesel, and the cess amount is collected at the rate of Re.1 per litre. Annual allocation for rural roads to Uttar Pradesh out of this cess is Rs. 315 crore. The cess amount was increased by fifty paise/litre in the budget announcement of 2003-04, but the additional amount is yet to be received. Progress in coverage under PMGSY is determined by availability of funds.

In addition to the normal PMGSY allocation to States, World Bank has also approved a loan/credit for construction of rural roads in four States including Uttar Pradesh, under PMGSY.